

RIVER EDGE BOARD OF EDUCATION

RIVER EDGE, NEW JERSEY 07661

“Building Bright Futures Together”

Minutes of the Regular Public Meeting – February 1, 2017

7:30 PM Public Meeting

The Board of Education, Borough of River Edge, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey met in the Media Center, Roosevelt School, 711 Summit Avenue, River Edge, NJ 07661.

CALL TO ORDER AND FLAG SALUTE

Mrs. Myers called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

MISSION STATEMENT

Ms. Danahy read the Mission Statement.

ROLL CALL

Present on roll call were Ms. Danahy; Ms. Dansky; Mr. Herbst; Mr. Koth; Mrs. Myers; Mr. Sim. Also present were Dr. Ben-Dov, Mr. Bellino, Mr. Henzel and approximately four members of the public.

Mr. Busteed was absent
Ms. Dansky left at 9:01 PM

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS NOTICE

Mr. Bellino read the Open Public Meeting Act Notice.

CLOSED SESSION TO BE CONVENED AT THE END OF THE PUBLIC SESSION

Mrs. Myers read the following:

That in accordance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act the River Edge School District Board of Education shall conduct a closed session pursuant to the exceptions prescribed by N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 for the purpose of discussing:

- A. Negotiations matters
- B. Bi-borough contractual issue
- C. Insurance legal issue
- D. Residency issue

It is anticipated that the length of time of this closed session will be sixty minutes and that no action will be taken in public after the closed session.

The minutes of the closed session will be released when the need for confidentiality in accordance with N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 no longer applies.

SPECIAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS

Public Comment on Agenda Items - None

Review of the Consolidated Monitoring Report and the Corrective Action Plan – Rosemary Kuruc

Dr. Ben-Dov gave the board members and audience the background of the Special Education monitoring that took place in the district on December 6th. She spoke about the last time River Edge was monitored in 2005. She said we had nine findings that year and this year we only had three pertaining to Special Education and one pertaining to finances. Mrs. Kuruc reviewed the findings with the board members and went over the corrective action plan for each one. She stated the monitors will come back in April at which point we can show that we have improved and corrected the findings.

REPORTS

SUPERINTENDENT

Dr. Ben-Dov reported on the following:

- Kindergarten registration was held on January 24th at Roosevelt School and January 26th at Cherry Hill School. Dr. Ben-Dov thanked Mrs. Blute and Mr. Henzel for their work on the new online registration process this year. Roosevelt had a total of 47 registrants and Cherry Hill had a total of 83 registrants. As of now, a total of three kindergarten classes are needed at Roosevelt and five kindergarten classes are needed at Cherry Hill for the 2017-2018 school year.
- Dr. Ben-Dov and Mr. Bellino attended the Mid-year Budget Review meeting with the County on January 19th. This meeting went very well. They asked many curriculum questions and were happy with the steps the district has taken with strengthening PARCC weaknesses. They were also happy with our technology and STEAM efforts.
- Dr. Ben-Dov reported a HIB Incident which was the first one of the year. It involved a Roosevelt 5th grader who made verbal bullying comments to another Roosevelt 5th grader. It was investigated and found to be HIB related. The families were notified and action against the perpetrator took place. The student had to write a letter of apology to the victim, will have sessions with the Pupil Assistance Counselor and Principal, the I&RS team will develop an intervention plan, and the classroom and Physical Education teachers will keep an eye on the students as well.
- Dr. Ben-Dov, Mrs. Heitman, Mr. Henzel, Mrs. Cardia, and Ms. Spano attended the TECHSPO Conference in Atlantic City on January 26th and January 27th. She stated it was a good experience and very productive workshop.
- Dr. Ben-Dov gave the board members a parking lot update. She said the estimate for the traffic study was \$3,000. She met with the Mayor and he agreed that it was a town issue not just a school issue. The Mayor and Council were going to review if there was anything that could be done to help with parking. Although the Mayor wasn't optimistic about this he said they would research the request to change the signs on the streets. The Mayor does not believe we need a traffic study.

- The Eleventh Annual Young Artists Exhibition opened today. It was postponed from yesterday due to the weather. It was well attended. This was Ms. Attardi and Ms. Del Guidice first show together and they collaborated and worked well as a team. The show will be open for two weeks.
- On February 6th, there will be a benefit concert at Cherry Hill School to kick off both International Days. The funds raised will go to the Instrumental Music program in both schools.
- There will be a poetry contest hosted by the River Edge Library for grades 3-6. It will be a spring theme.
- International Days are coming up. Cherry Hill's will be on February 9th and Roosevelt's will be on March 31st.

PRINCIPAL

Mr. Henzel reported on the following:

- Roosevelt School had their Geography Bee earlier in January. Mr. Henzel congratulated James in the sixth grade on winning the bee.
- Our Kindness Club has started at Roosevelt School. It is a club for second through sixth graders that focuses on service projects for others. We had 100 students show interest in the club so we had to split the club in two sections. He thanked all for their help with the club.
- We also started a new recess club that was open to all students. Mrs. Santos will be guiding our students in a Lego club that will meet every Wednesday through April.
- Kindergarten registration was last week. We moved everything online for this year. An online registration platform for the parents was available to pre-register their incoming Kindergarten children. This will also work for any new student that moves into the district.
- The Eleventh Annual Young Artists Exhibition show opened today at the River Edge Cultural Center. Mr. Henzel stated Ms. Attardi and Ms. Del Guidice did a fabulous job with the show. He encourages all to go and visit.

BOARD SECRETARY

Mr. Bellino reported on the following:

- Mr. Bellino has received the preliminary budget calendar from the State. The final budget is due by May 12th. We will receive state aide numbers at the end of February.
- There is a resolution on tonight's agenda to approve the Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI) Program Waiver for the 2017-2018 school year
- Mr. Bellino reminded the board members the Ethics and Financial Disclosure forms are now available online. They are due to the county before April 30th.

PRESIDENT

- Mrs. Myers spoke with Matt Lee regarding the board retreat. They are almost ready for the release of the final agenda.

COMMITTEES

- Mrs. Myers, Dr. Ben-Dov, Mr. Lyons, and Mr. Bellino met with the Mayor and Council representatives and the Recreation Commission prior to tonight’s meeting to discuss the interlocal agreement, field modifications proposed by the Recreation Department, and parking projects.

MOTIONS TO BE ACTED UPON

A. ADMINISTRATION/POLICY

1. That the Board of Education approve the Minutes and Confidential Minutes of January 4, 2017.
2. That the Board of Education approve the staff development and travel as per the schedules for February 2017 including relevant mileage reimbursement. (Addendum)
3. That the Board of Education approve the completion of the following emergency drills:

School	Dates
Cherry Hill School	January 11, 2017 Fire Drill January 19, 2017 Lockdown
Roosevelt School	January 4, 2017 Fire Drill January 23, 2017 Lockdown

4. That the Board of Education approve the following class trip:

Date	School	Grade	Destination	Cost to District
2/8/17 Raindate: 2/13/17	Roosevelt School	K	River Edge Cultural Center River Edge, NJ	\$0

5. That the Board of Education approve the Corrective Action Plan for the Consolidated Monitoring Report.

6. **WHEREAS**, NJAC 6A:23A-5.3 provides that a school district may request a waiver of compliance with respect to the district's participation in the Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI) Program for the 2017-18, and

WHEREAS, the River Edge Board of Education desires to apply for this waiver due to the fact that it projects having fewer than 40 Medicaid eligible classified students.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the River Edge Board Of Education hereby authorized the Chief School Administrator to submit to the Executive County Superintendent of Schools in the County of Bergen an appropriate waiver of the requirements of NJAC 6A23A-5.3 for the 2017-2018 school year.

B. CURRICULUM/EDUCATION - None

C. BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

D. FINANCE/GRANTS/GIFTS

1. That the Board of Education establish the tuition rates per pupil for the 2017-2018 school year:

Integrated Pre-School Program 3 half days per week \$2,550.00

Integrated Pre-School Program 4 half days per week \$3,150.00

E. PERSONNEL

1. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent approve the following River Dell High School students to intern one day per week as part of a School Sponsored Structured Learning Experience to commence on or about February 7, 2017 through June 13, 2017.

Amanda Chen
Matthew Tina

2. That the Board of Education with the recommendation of the Superintendent approve the following for student Field Experience to consist of 25 hours of literacy exposure over a period of 13 weeks to commence on or about February 2, 2017 through May 5, 2017

Alia Garcia

3. That the Board of Education approve the following individuals for movement on the step guide effective February 1, 2017 based on educational credentials.

Nevin Werner from BA+15 to MA Step 5

4. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve William Krautheim, Lunch Aide, in accordance with the Hourly Employee Salary Schedule, Step 1, for the 2016-2017 school year.

5. That the Board of Education accept, with regret, the resignation of Michelle Van Buren, Part-time Aide, effective January 20, 2017.

6. That the Board of Education approve the following teachers for the Cycle III of the Post Dismissal Instructional Academy for the 2016-2017 School Year at the REBOE/REEA CBA hourly rate:

Cherry Hill

Jessica Barbo

Noy Sapir

7. That the Board of Education designates John Lyons as the Integrated Pest Management Coordinator from January 1, 2017 to June 30, 2017.

8. That the Board of Education with the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the following as substitutes for the 2016-2017 school year.

Sahar Ahmed

Amanda Conroy

Sarah (Se Ryeong) Jung

Pamela Mirabella

Sarah Norian

Paloma Pepi

9. That the Board of Education approve Alexandra Gleason, ABA Aide, to start on or about February 14, 2017 through June 30, 2017, Step B.

F. RIVER EDGE SPECIAL EDUCATION - None

G. REGION V ADMINISTRATION & TRANSPORTATION

1. Be it resolved that the Region V Council for Special Education will provide shared services for its member districts and be it further resolved that the River Edge Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the following Region V Shared Services Consultants, Psychologists, Learning Disabilities Teacher Consultants, Social Workers, Speech Language Specialists, Occupational and Physical Therapists, Translators to provide evaluations, direct services and consultation, to non-public and public schools for member districts upon request for the 2016-2017 school year.

J & B Therapy, LLC

Specialty Professional Services Corp

Occupational therapists

Nursing Services

Motion by: Mr. Herbst Seconded by: Mr. Koth

Ayes: Ms. Danahy, Ms. Dansky, Mr. Herbst, Mr. Koth, Mr. Sim, Mrs. Myers

Nays: None

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Herbst attended the Bergen County School Board Meeting on January 31st. He met and spoke with Matt Lee. Mr. Herbst would like to get the board certified again.

Ms. Dansky announced she was asked to attend a program for educators regarding STEAM in Virginia. She cannot make this program, but will try and get some information from the program.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION

Christine O'Keefe, River Edge Teacher, asked the board if they are still considering adding a parking lot to Cherry Hill School. Mrs. Myers answered her question.

CLOSED SESSION

Motion made by Mr. Sim, seconded by Ms. Dansky to convene into closed session for the reason previously cited at 8:15 PM.

Voice vote all Ayes

ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Mr. Sim, seconded by Ms. Danahy to reconvene and adjourn the regular public meeting at 9:50 PM.

Voice vote all Ayes

Joseph Bellino
Interim Board Secretary/Business Administrator